

## Message Text

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15

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2036

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 8945

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJ: GOP SECURITY MEASURES AND OTHER POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LIMA 8586

1. THE GOP ISSUED A SUPREME DECREE SEPTEMBER 28 PROLOGING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY AND THE SUSPENSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES FOR ANOTHER 30 DAYS. THE 1 TO 5 A.M. CURFEW FOR LIMA AND ENVIRONS ALSO REMAINS IN EFFECT. THE EXTENTION OF GOP SECURITY MEASURES SURPRISED NO ONE ALTHOUGH TRADITIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT HOPEFUL THAT PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ WOULD ANNOUNCE A RESTORATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES DURING HIS OCTOBER 3 SPEECH COMMEMORATING THE EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REVOLUTION.

2. IN FACT, ANTICIPATED CONTENT OF THAT SPEECH WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL REASON FOR THE GOP TO CONTINUE THE SUSPENSION OF GUARANTEES. A WELL-INFORMED SOURCE CLOSE TO THE MORALES BERMUDEZ FAMILY TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL ANNOUNCE THE NEW LABOR STABILITY OR JOB SECURITY LAW, WHICH HOWEVER PRESENTED, WILL INCREASE MANAGEMENT CONTROL BY PROVIDING FOR DISMISSAL OF "LABOR AGITATORS" (LIMA 8586). LEFTIST UNIONS WILL BE ADVERESLY AFFECTED AND A STRONG REACTION COULD BE EXPECTED BUT FOR THE STATE OF EMERGENCY. THE GOP IS ALSO SAID TO BE ATTEMPTING TO READY ITS NEW LAW MODIFYING LABOR COMMUNITIES FOR INCLUSION IN THE OCTOBER 3 SPEECH.

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3. THE GOP REMAINS SENSITIVE TO POSSIBLE CRITICISM OF ITS EVOLVING POLICIES. FOR THAT REASON POLITICAL JOURNALS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ALLOWED TO RE-OPEN. ENRIQUE ZILERI, DIRECTOR OF CARETAS, HAD BEEN GIVEN ASSURANCES BY GOP CENTRAL INFORMATION OFFICE (OCI) THAT HE WOULD BE PERMITTED TO PUBLISH LAST WEEK. HE PRINTED 70,000 COPIES OF HIS MAGAZINE ONLY TO BE TOLD THAT FOR "POLITICAL REASONS" THE MAGAZINE COULD NOT BE SOLD. A WELL-INFORMED SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT INTERIOR MINISTER CISNEROS HAD SUPPORTED ZILERI'S CASE AND BOTH PRIME MINISTER ARBULU AND NAVY MINISTER PARODI WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN IN ACCORD. BASED ON THAT, OCI HAD GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD TO ZILERI. HOWEVER, MORALES BERMUDEZ MET WITH THE RULING JUNTA IN MID-WEEK AND NEITHER ARBULU NOR PARODI SPOKE FOR ZILERI. THEREFORE, MORALES BERMUDEZ OVERRULED OCI WITH THE DECISION THAT CARETAS COULD NOT RE-OPEN BEFORE THE OTHER PERIODICALS. ZILERI, IN DIRE FINANCIAL STRAITS, PLANS TO APPEAL DIRECTLY TO MORALES BERMUDEZ FOR REVERSAL OF THE DECISION OR AT LEAST FOR GOP COMPENSATION FOR LOSSES SUFFERED.

4. IN OTHER POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AN ACCION POPULAR (AP) SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF TAHT AP AND APRA LEADERS (NOT INCLUDING HAYA DE LA TORRE WHO REMAINS CRITICAL OF AP) MET RECENTLY IN WHAT SOURCE DESCRIBED AS FIRST SIGNIFICANT INTERCHANGE OF OPINION BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. HE CALLED THE MEETING A STEP ALONG THE ROAD TOWARD A CIVILIAN FRONT COMPRISING PERU'S DEMOCRATIC PARTIES. PARTY LEADERS WERE SAID TO QUESTION THE LONGEVITY OF MORALES BERMUDEZ REGIME AND DISCUSSED ALLEGED PRESSURES GENERATED FROM WITHIN THE MILITARY ON THE GOP LEADERSHIP FOR PROMPT AND SPECIFIC STEPS LEADING TO EVENTUAL CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. CIVILIAN LEADERS FEEL THAT PRIME MINISTER ARBULU FAVORS SUCH STEPS BUT THAT PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ IS YET TO BE CONVINCED.  
DEAN

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